



Council Chairman's Report

Delores Pigsley

FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

The previous Tribal Newsletter and a recent edition of the Newport News carried articles regarding recent tribal timber sales. The articles have created misunderstanding, rumors, demands for per capita payments and allegations of misuse of tribal funds. This is unfortunate and very harmful to the economic efforts of our tribe.

We have established two objectives for use of tribal timber funds. We fund the operations of our Tribal Council and we want to increase our economic base by using timber funds to help finance other economic development efforts.

With regard to the second goal, we have three major projects underway. First, we are attempting to increase our timberland base. We are working with state and local governments, various federal agencies, other tribes and our congressional delegation. Second, we are locating and purchasing land for housing industrial development. Finally, we are gathering information from various other tribes regarding economic development successes and failures.

During this process, we have involved staff, tribal members and Council members. Everyone has worked hard and has demonstrated initiative and sound judgment in working toward our goals. We do not intend to repeat mistakes made by others. Progress is being made but our goals will not be accomplished overnight.

We also are exploring taking over management of our forestry program. By the time you read this, the Council probably will have decided whether to leave management of our most important economic resource to others or to do it ourselves.

In summary, much work is being done to enhance the economic status of our Tribe. As individual members, you do not see the results yet, but if you are patient, one day you will see our Tribe stand independent politically and economically.

Sincerely,
Delores Pigsley
Tribal Chairman

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

Recently I learned that several years ago, during the summer of 1978, the Tribe organized a similar Culture Information gathering project as is now ongoing. I was very sad to learn that one of the 1978 Project Supervisors, Ramona Sauvage, moved from the Siletz area with irreplaceable tapes and written interviews of Tribal members in her possession. These materials were intended to remain in Siletz for all our future use.

As the Siletz Area Culture & History Information Gatherer, I feel obliged to make the entire Tribal membership aware of this situation. Many of you that willingly donated your time for that project may be wondering, whatever happened to all that information. Simply, much of it is LOST!

It will be lost forever, UNLESS, we can locate Ramona Sauvage! If anyone has information that may lead to contacting Ramona and regaining access to those materials please call the Information Gatherer or Culture Committee member in your area. Many of the Elders interviewed in 1978 are now deceased. Hopefully Ms. Sauvage has maintained the collection intact and would willingly provide access to the information once contacted.

Personally, I feel it is very important that Ramona be contacted as soon as possible. Please, share any information that may help find her before it is too late.

Sincerely,
Denise A. Wilson
Message Phone: 444-2532
Home Phone: 444-2234

Revenues. The Council is spending this money and I feel we the people have a right to ask for a written report from each Council member that traveled for Economic Development, not a written report from their staff but from the Council members. We see the time sheets and dollars spent for Council pay but travel is also coming from Timber Revenues. Travel includes meals, rooms, mileage, plane fares, car rentals, etc. If the people do not keep up on the spending, the Council can use all of Timber Revenues, the money they would not authorize to be given to the people. The Council is running a big business and remember Tribal members, you are owners of this business. Also, if you as Tribal people have concerns, let those concerns be known and follow upon on concerns. We wrote a letter to the Council in February on a concern and have not received even a letter of acknowledgement on that concern.

Reginald Bulter

To the Editor:

In recent weeks I've read articles regarding Chief William DePoe's "out-standing and valuable services supporting Indian Education". I'm glad there is another elder taking up where my grandfather "Chief" Archie Ben left off. For years my grandfather, along with my father Robert Rilatos Sr., took our people to Pow Wows, parades, colleges, schools and even the penitentiary to let people know although the Siletz Tribe, as a unit, wasn't together those that believed and were proud, stood tall and represented the Siletz Indians.

Our family walked many a mile through parades and all over Oregon receiving many ribbons and trophies, with Archie Ben as our leader, although Siletz wasn't recognized as a reservation.

My grandfather travelled from school to school sharing his Indian legends, stories and Tribal songs.

While he sang, his children, grandchildren and family members did the Traditional Indian dances. We were taught to be proud of who we are and what we are, while others sat in the back denying their heritage.

My grandfather, "Chief" Archie Ben, is known and loved by people all over. His love of sharing has made me and my family very proud.

My grandfather recently celebrated his 85th birthday. To me that means a lot. I could only dream that when I turn 85, half as many people know, love and respect me as they do my grandfather, "Chief" Archie Ben.

Much love to my grandparents and parents for such an upbringing.

Valerie Hibdon
Marlboro, Massachusetts

To the Editor:

Hi, my name is Deeanna F. John. I am a graduate of a Trade School (IAA) for Airline jobs. I'm now working in LA, CA. moved from Stayton, Oregon. I am writing to say to any young person: The system the Indians have works if you help it work! Figure out your goals and shoot for them and don't give up! Take 'um to the limit!! Because your career is important and so are you! It helped me with my career!! The School system works! And I'd like to thank Bob Tom for his encouragement! He helped me a lot! THANKS!!

Deeanna F. John
LA, CA.

Phone Numbers
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Confederated Tribes of Siletz
1-800-922-1299
(within Oregon only)

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SILETZ NEWS



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DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST
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Send all articles and photos (black and white only) to P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR. 97380.

To the Editor,

The Tribal Council recently authorized themselves to use \$10,000.00 for Economic Development from Timber Revenues in which they traveled to other reservations. This \$10,000.00 is over and above the budget for Council and Building Maintenance that is already coming from Timber

"Opinions Questions, Concerns"

All letters received will be printed. Please type or write legible, no profane language will be printed. All letters must include your name and address. Send letters to: "Siletz News", P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR. 97380. Questions? Call 444-2536.

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